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THE
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In a LETTER to
H I S G R A C E
The Duke of NEWCASTLE.

*Parva sunt hæc, sed parva ista non contemnendo majores
nostri maximam hanc rem fecerunt.* LIVY.

The SECOND EDITION.

L O N D O N,

Printed for the REGISTER-OFFICE in St.
James's Country Market.

MDCCLVIII.

THE
C R I E
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P U B L I C
A L T E R
H I S G R A C E
The Duke of Newcastle.

From the Duke of Newcastle to the Duke of Newcastle
The Second Edition.

L O N D O N

Printed for the Registrar-General in the
Printers' Company Market.

M D C C L X V

A

LETTER &c.

MY LORD,

OF all the counsels that may be given a man, be his quality what it will, not one, in my humble opinion, is preferable to constancy and evenness of temper amidst the adverse, or favourable shiftings of fortune. It is an undoubted maxim, that whoever regulates his life in such manner, will always appear the same, will never bend under accidents, and armed by a strong resolution, will form constancy into a shield of defence for himself against all sorts of events; his countenance, his words and his actions affording at the same time no other testimony, but that of a courageous man and full of virtue.

It is unnecessary, if not absurd, to inculcate with regard to your Grace this piece of

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ad-

advice. All know that you possess in a most eminent degree the virtue of fortitude. It has shined conspicuous throughout the course of your life. On your early entering into business under the auspice of the illustrious family now on the throne, it was admired in you. As you advanced in honours, the same admiration rather encreased than diminished in your favour; and now you have grown old in the service of the public, what must be said? I am at a stand for words to express the applause due to that uniformity of your conduct in doing good, which never swerved from the genuine principles of right reason, integrity and justice.

As it is not in our power to raise ourselves to the highest posts of honour, so also it is not our fault, if rebuffs are sometimes met with, and if after an unblemished administration, the issue turns out unprosperous. Whatever way these events happen, reason wills that they should be borne up against with invincible courage. This your Grace had shewn, when you experienced the too common fate of ministers. You then rather acquired more glory, by convincing all intelligent persons, that your attachment to the court proceeded from the sole view of being serviceable to his Majesty, and that private
interest

interest was of no consideration to influence you in the discharge of your duty.

But what will not popular clamours, tho' often ill grounded, sometimes effect? Evil-minded men, to promote their wicked machinations, industriously raise them. They are also frequently the result of envy; and indeed envy has not the least share in them; for it is impossible to hinder the lustre of an extraordinary virtue, honoured with a great power by the Prince, from stirring up envy in all those, who in any respect are actuated by ambition. It is not more natural for the sun to attract from the earth the exhalations and vapours that thicken into clouds to obscure his light, than it is usual with a great minister to see his superior merit and the greatness of his genius draw upon him the hatred of the greater part of the grandees, together with that of those who aspire to be statesmen, and serve as an occasion to form cabals and parties to his prejudice. None were ever so favoured by fortune, as to remain always secure from such attacks, and it is therefore that your Grace was sensible, that one of the principal means adopted by great men to exculpate themselves from any malevolent imputation amidst the troubles excited by envy against them, is to shew

their disinterestedness and purity of intention, by asking leave to retire from the government of public affairs to live in a private capacity. Of this moderation you have exhibited sufficient testimonies. By it you have shut up the envenomed mouths of the most turbulent spirits, and they soon saw themselves obliged to convert their animosity into profound admiration.

Thus it was, that LUCULLUS among the ancient *Romans*, perceiving that the glory of his triumph had exposed him to the envy of the leading men of the republic, voluntarily resigned the care of public business to devote himself intirely to literary amusements, tho' he had been earnestly entreated by the wisest not to follow herein his own sentiments, by reason of his being known to be the most capable of setting bounds to POMPEY's ambition.

Such resignations, when no compulsive commands of a superior power take place, necessarily argue a greatness of soul above what is common. A multiplicity of other actions may be reputed magnanimous, but because they frequently occur, and several persons are capable of performing them, they do not deserve to be so highly prized ; where-

as to behave as your Grace has done, challenges esteem even from the unwilling. The action is rare and singular ; it required a very extraordinary strength of mind, and by distinguishing you from others, must of consequence rank you in an exalted degree above them.

The common people, who are but very imperfect connoisseurs in affairs, and whose judgment is always determined by mere hearsay, could never discern the tendency of this disposition of mind. The obloquy of a few persons scattered the sparks of murmurings, of discontent, of jealousy and of fears among them ; the fire was caught with eagerness, and quickly was kindled up into a kind of conflagration : but your Grace very wisely *
 “ left the flames of these rumours to be
 “ abated and extinguished by time, knowing
 “ that even the innocent are often unequal to
 “ the attacks of recent hatred ;” or rather, that popular favour is but a very weak and tottering foundation for any goodly superstructure to lean upon ; of which historians have left us on record many signal examples, particularly TACITUS, where speaking of NERO and AGRIPPINA, he says : *Simul populus ef-*

* *Relinquendum rumoribus tempus quo senescant : plerumque innocentes recenti invidiæ impares.* TAC.

figies AGRIPPINÆ & NERONIS gerens circumfistit curiam. TAC. "The people crouded about the senate-house, shewing with great fondness the images of AGRIPPINA and NERO." And yet this same people shewed not the least uneasiness, when both were very ill treated some days after. The same fickle humour appeared on the death of GALBA, to whom all former flatteries and applauses were of no service. They afterwards so behaved to OTHO, that they seemed quite the reverse of what they were before. This PROTEUS was still seen to change temper at the death of VITELLIUS, running as mad up and down in quest of his partizans to murder them. The chief reason that can be alledged for this is, that the people in all their counsels never proceed to any peremptory determination, being this day for one and to-morrow for another, according as fortune puts on a different face: whence the same author justly observed *, "That the people, whatever they had done for the sake of VITELLIUS, would do the same on the account of VESPASIAN."

It is then no subject for surprize, if the wiser sort have always deemed the favour

* *Populum quæcunque VITELLII causâ effecerit, eadem erga VESPASIANUM effecturum.*

of the people as very frivolous, and not in the least to be depended upon, or at best an inscrutable enigma, of which a just allusion may be seen in the following, which is found graved in antique characters on the wall of a castle near *Bologna* in *Italy*.

ÆLIA, LELIA, CRISPIS, *nec vir, nec mulier, nec androgyna, nec puella, nec juvenis, nec anus, nec casta, nec meretrix, nec pudica sed omnia. Sublata, neque fame, neque ferro, neque veneno, sed omnibus ; nec cælo, nec terris, nec aquis, sed ubique jacet. LUCIUS AGATHO PRISCIUS, nec marius, nec amator, nec necessarius, neque mærens, neque gaudens, neque flens, hanc neque molem, nec pyramidem, nec sepulchrum, scit & nescit cui posuit.*

ENGLISHED.

“ ELIA, LELIA, CRISPIS, neither a man,
 “ nor a woman, nor an hermaphrodite, nor
 “ a girl, nor a boy, nor an old woman, nor
 “ a virgin, nor a harlot ; but all together.
 “ Who died, neither by hunger, nor by the
 “ sword, nor by poison ; but by all three.
 “ Who lies, neither in the heavens, nor in
 “ the earth, nor in the waters ; but every
 “ where. LUCIUS AGATHO PRISCIUS, nei-
 “ ther her husband, nor her gallant, nor her
 “ relation, without fretting, without rejoic-
 “ ing,

“ ing, without weeping, knows and does
 “ not know for whom he has erected this,
 “ which is neither a monument, nor a py-
 “ ramid, nor a sepulchre.”

But in whatever light the people may be considered, it may in general be said, according to the remark of TACITUS *, “ That
 “ they are upon one, or other extreme, either
 “ terrifying unless kept in awe, or safely de-
 “ spised when fear is made to lay a restraint
 “ on their licentiousness.” The latter part of this maxim does not regard your Grace ; you never endeavoured to repress the voice of calumny, when it vented its virulence against your own person. All well-wishers thought it expedient for you to arm yourself with resentment for repelling and crushing the dangerous foe ; but you rather smiling at than disturbed by the impotent rage, judged it more advisable to suffer a more mature reflection to bring over these revilers to a sense of their folly, that by being ashamed of it, they should at last themselves acknowledge their error, confess your merit, and be convinced of the wisdom of your measures. This other instance of modesty and moderation, manifested to such a degree in you, could not but

* *Nihil in vulgo modicum, terrere, ni paveant ; ubi perti-
 muerint, impune contemni.* TAC.

render you more venerable. It was a means of reinstating you in your former high station, which none but your Grace was supposed equal to. His Majesty could no longer consent to your retreat. He always found in you a faithful servant ; and as such, according to the wiseman, it was incumbent on him to cherish you as his soul, and treat you as his brother. It was not prudent to deprive the state of the guidance of so extraordinary a person : for if the difference of the talents of men be attentively considered, it will not be doubted but that there are several orders of men, as there are, according to Scripture, of angels, and that those of an inferior order are in continual want of being enlightened or conducted by those of the superior.

If then the abilities of the superior order shine forth in your Grace, as they do in effect, what must not our expectations be ? The eyes of the better part of the nation are fixed on you in this critical conjuncture both of foreign and domestic affairs. We are on the eve of seeing ourselves a glorious, or miserable people. Glorious ! if we strenuously assert our liberties, defend our colonies and succour our allies. Miserable ! if we droop into inaction, leave our counsels without execution,

ecution, and yeild tamely to the pernicious designs of *France*.

Believe me, Great Sir, we stand now more in need than ever of the true patriotic spirit. Where shall we find a more proper person to exert it than your Grace? Who else will save a sinking state, and shew proofs of the ancient *British* fortitude to humble the pride and insolence of our enemies?

Your Grace well knows, without my hinting it to you, that the affairs of *Europe* are in such a situation, that the two crowns of *Great-Britain* and *France* divide all the other interests of princes. This may appear by the breaking out of the present war, which immediately set in a flame the empire of *Germany*. Hence one power seems naturally obliged to assist those attacked by the other, and when one engages in an enterprise, the other by a reason of state should oppose it. Some politicians will say, that the cause of this may be attributed to the emulation that has now for a considerable time subsisted between the two kingdoms, and which is so strong, that one cannot suffer the other to become more powerful. But it may with better reason be alledged, that the true and real cause is not common

to *Great-Britain* and *France*, each having particular motives. The *French* have made the chief glory of their monarchy to consist, not in what is just, but in what is useful to its encrease, and by this means lulling all sense of honour and conscience asleep, they make no scruple, upon every trivial pretence, of being the infractors of the most sacred laws of right and justice. 'Tis true, they seldom, or ever are at a loss for some specious comment to gloss over the pretended goodness of their cause; but they do it with such insipid evasions, that the senseless sophistry is immediately seen through by a person of the least discernment. If they intend to break a treaty, they are sure to throw all the blame and odium on the injured party with the smartness of some pretty and ingenious turn, as : *Les traités n'obligent pas qu'autant qu'ils sont religieusement observés de part & d'autre* *.

“Treaties are not binding but as far as they
 “are religiously observed on both sides.” If they proceed to an open rupture, they do it in so clandestine a manner, that their acts of hostility are felt, before the law of nations can give them a right to be even expected : witness their attacks on our *American* colonies in the time of profound peace. In short, so

* A clause in one of the *French* king's memorials before the late war.

little sincere and plain dealing is to be hoped for from all their negotiations, that it were to be wished - all other *European* nations would treat them as some do the *Turk*, that is, wage perpetual war against them, 'till being brought low and punished severely for their high crimes and misdemeanours, they become in earnest more ingenuous friends and less dangerous enemies. It is not so with *Britons*, whose state founded on justice, as on an eternal basis, never allows them to take up arms but in their own defence, or in that of their allies. *Great-Britain's* sole design is to maintain itself in the possession of it's legal property; but that of *France*, not contented with what she has, to add to her territories by encroachments on her neighbours. *Great-Britain* knows that her security consists in the equal counterpoize of power and strength of the several states of *Europe*, and on this account she holds herself obliged to hinder *France* from becoming powerful, lest she should pretend to any advantage over her and her allies: and *France* that, for a long time has formed and continued the design of making herself mistress of all *Europe*, thinks herself unjustly dealt with, if *Great-Britain* should support her allies in the just possession of their states, or take up arms to defend them.

To

To carry on a little farther this contrast, both crowns have their allies attached to them by different considerations. The *French*, who always 'till of late had been bitter enemies of the house of *Austria*, entered into an alliance with it, no doubt in the bottom with the view to assist *Germans* to cut each other's throats, that when spent and debilitated by mutual slaughter, they might facilitate their long fostered project of grasping at a kind of universal monarchy. The *English*, on their side being deserted by the house of *Austria*, which in the main, they have no reason to regret, that alliance having been on several emergencies extremely burdensome to them, adopted, or at least seem to adopt a system more natural to their constitution, which is that of supporting the protestant interest in *Germany*. Though they have not cemented an actual alliance with the king of *Prussia*, the generous and noble defender of that interest, yet it is presumed that they will behave as if they had. His Majesty was most graciously pleased to recommend him from the throne, and if the *British* nation be truly sensible of what may be productive of it's real welfare, it will readily concur with his Majesty's laudable intentions, and find by taking this step, that it was the only means of securing its liberty
and

and independency from the unjust usurpations of the *French*, or any other ill-designing enemy.

'Tis certain, that some will murmur and say: what have *Britons* to do with continental connections, they live sequestered in an island, and their ships of war guard their coasts from the attempts of bold invaders; they should consult their own interest and not that of foreigners? This trite argument may influence the minds of the ignorant. But those that conceive a just idea of things can very well answer; that though *Britons* may be secure by their situation, they should not be so confident as to be under no apprehension of an overgrown power always willing to reduce them to slavery. Now, as *France* aspires to this growth of power, and as by the subduing and ruin of those, whom *Britons* ought naturally to acknowledge as allies, she designs to raise this fabrick, should not they, whilst in any respect able to cope with her and restrain her ambition, concert and enter upon the execution of all proper measures conducive to ward off the danger by protecting in the way of prevention all such states as have reason to guard against *France*, and dread destruction from her schemes.

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In another point of view, what can be more honourable to *Britons* than this protection? Nothing can be more glorious to a nation than to support by its power, those who are threatened with oppression. The succours given them will be a standing memorial of its grandeur and generosity. No injustice can appear, in the procedure. That force is founded on equity, said an ancient sage, which is employed in the defence of the weak, and nothing is more just than to assert the cause of injured liberty.

The great archbishop of *Cambrai*, in his reflections on the indispensable necessity of forming alliances both offensive and defensive, against a superior power, justly dreaded by others, and tending manifestly to universal monarchy, has these excellent remarks: “neighbouring states are not only
 “obliged to treat each other according to
 “the rules of justice and sincerity, but
 “ought also for their peculiar safety, as well
 “as common interest, establish a kind of
 “society and general commonwealth. It
 “may be supposed that at length the greatest power prevails always over and destroys others if they unite not to form a
 “counterpoize. It is not to be expected
 “among

“ among men, that a superior power should
 “ confine itself within the limits of an exact
 “ moderation, and that it should not wish
 “ for in it's strength, what it could obtain
 “ in it's greatest weakness.—We must reckon
 “ on upon what is real and happens daily.
 “ Every nation seeks an advantage over all
 “ others surrounding it. Every nation is
 “ then obliged to be continually on it's
 “ guard, to prevent for it's own safety the
 “ excessive power of every neighbour. To
 “ hinder a neighbour from being too powerful,
 “ is not to do an injury. It is to secure
 “ one's self from slavery, and to secure other
 “ neighbours. In short, it is
 “ to be serviceable to liberty, tranquillity
 “ and the public safety. A nation's aggrandizing
 “ itself beyond certain limits, makes an alteration
 “ in the general system of all the nations that
 “ have a relation to it—There are written laws
 “ and magistrates to put a stop to injustice and
 “ violence among families not upon a par in
 “ riches—But there are no written laws, nor
 “ established judges to serve as a barrier
 “ against the invasions of the most powerful—
 “ Thus every prince has a right and is obliged
 “ to prevent this increase of power in his
 “ neighbour, which might expose his people and
 “ others to the evident danger

“ger of a remediless slavery.—Every thing
 “that overturns the equilibrium, and makes
 “a decisive stroke for universal monarchy,
 “cannot be just, though even founded on
 “the written laws of a particular country.
 “The reason is, because those written laws
 “of a particular people, cannot prevail over
 “the natural law of liberty and common
 “safety, engraved on the hearts of all the
 “other people in the world.”

Well fare the heart of this noble arch-
 bishop, who under an arbitrary government,
 and under a king, whose maxims invariably
 tended to give a sanction to this conduct,
 dared to hazard sentiments clothed in the
 native dress of humanity and liberty. Me-
 thinks, my Lord, we that are a free people
 should be fired by the bare mention of such,
 and indignant emotions should swell in our
 breasts against all disturbers of the common
 welfare, who by endeavouring to destroy the
 balance, and to alter the general system of *Eu-
 rope*, must bring on, unless timely prevented,
 the inevitable ruin of many of the members
 of this same body politic.

'Tis now no longer a doubt but that the
 courts of *Vienna* and *Versailles* are fully re-
 solved, if possible, to effect this alteration in
 the

the general system of *Europe*. Shall then *Britons* hear the alarm sounded and not rouse themselves? Shall they indolent and unglorious be only lookers on? Shall not they counteract the stratagems of *French* artifice and *Austrian* ambition? Shall not they invite all other protestant powers to a defensive and offensive alliance, and shall not they animate them to it, by first setting themselves the example? How will posterity blush to see recorded in history that the king of *Prussia* stood alone against *Austrians*, *French*, *Russians*, *Swedes*, &c. whilst *Britons*, whose cause was intimately connected with his, were so dastardly, and so degenerate from their ancient spirit, as not to make a proper motion towards rescuing him from his troubles! 'Tis true, brave and generous spirits are favoured by providence; he has had great success, but unless succoured, may at last be overpowered and fall a victim to his enemies. PHILIP DE COMINES says, *une bataille perdue a mauvaise queue*, "a lost battle drags an ugly tail after it:" for it redoubles the hope and courage of the conquerors, astonishes and discourages the vanquished, shakes the fidelity of subjects, and gives matter and opportunity of conspiracy to malecontents, of revolt to towns, and of alienation to confederates.

derates. This disaster has been equally experienced by the contending parties in the present war; but the stronger having resources to repair losses, what must be said of the weaker, whom the winning even of a battle leads to ruin? FRANCIS SFORZA, who from a private soldier became a great captain and duke of *Milan*, was accustomed to say; "whoever has three enemies, should use his best endeavours to make peace with one, a truce with the other, and war in good earnest with the remaining." According to the old *Greek* proverb, "HERCULES cannot withstand two:" and no prince, nor state, as ARISTOTLE intimates in his *Ethics*, is capable of subsisting by its own power alone: "for if, says he, in the microcosm, all parts stand in need of each other, without even excepting the most noble, we may well conclude that God has granted power to sovereignties with such measure, that they cannot arrive at the consistence of a due growth, unless they reciprocally assist each other, and it is also on this foundation that all alliances are established." It is a gross deception to believe that friendship alone can knit the bonds of union among princes in any thing of a permanent manner. Private interest will always have the ascendant, and will

forcibly break through all obstacles whenever it finds it's account. But if states have ever good and substantial reasons for entering into alliances, it is principally when there is a pressing necessity of opposing a common enemy; as it is evident there now is with regard to this nation, by helping the king of *Prussia* in a way that may reflect honour and dignity on the *British* name.

It is not in the least questioned but that your Grace is thoroughly persuaded of the importance of the truths here laid down and inculcated, and as you have been always ready to embark in a good cause, there is room to hope you will not only in this, but also in every other, where a national advantage and happiness is concerned. He, who conducts by his counsels grand enterprizes, has a greater share in the glory of their success than those that execute them. The prudence of such a great personage, effects more in a state than all the arms in the world. It is therefore that considering your Grace in this light, with the humblest submission I beg leave to lay before you some domestic occurrences, which call aloud for your potent hand to redress them. What I before hinted at regards a welfare common to us with other nations, our friends and reputed allies :

allies: but what I now propose discoursing of, and which indeed is the main design of this letter, are grievances among ourselves, are scenes of villainy transacted heretofore with impunity, and though detected and exposed to public knowledge, yet as no direct step has been taken by the legislature to suppress them, it would be highly laudable in your Grace to set about the salutary work and crush the tyrant before he proceeds to farther ravages.

Though our taxes are necessary to carry on the present war with vigour, yet it is the height of prudence, that they should be felt as little as possible by the poorer sort and the industrious part of the subject. This in a great measure would have happened, had not it been for the combined infamous practices of a set of selfish men, I mean the dealers in the corn-way; who without conscience, without religion, without the fear of God, and in contempt of the sacred laws of humanity, have exercised extreme rigours on the poor, and occasioned a kind of famine throughout the country, by keeping up our markets by art, and pretending a scarcity, when in reality there was no such thing.

The fact is too notorious to be denied, though the blow was dealt suddenly and almost imperceptibly. The whole body of the community was obliged to receive a law, though they knew not by what authority it was enforced ; and as they could not help conceiving that it was very unjust, no wonder, if the common people murmured, shewed great uneasiness, and censured their superiors for supineness in suffering them to be so grossly injured.

Corn has been reputed time immemorial a branch of trade, productive of very considerable annual sums, and I may say half the support of the nation. Providence in this very one article is so liberal to our nation, that it is not probable a scarcity can happen ; so that whatever is pretended on this head by the dealers in the commodity, is nothing better than a flagrant abuse of the public, and in the main very detrimental to the nation in general, as the introducing of such an imaginary dearth must cause a real one of money by importation on one side, and the defect of exportation on the other. Certain it is, the bounty by this means is saved to the revenue, but the annual income, which should support the bounty, intirely vanishes : the gentlemen of landed estates have their
rents

rents for some time better paid, but the farmers stand a fair chance of bankruptcy, which at long run, upon importation and a glut, must necessarily happen.

Thus, my Lord, you see, into what a dilemma the over ardent desire of wealth in a few bad men has brought us. The melancholy reflection lays open to us other scenes of woe. Flesh-meat was tolerably cheap, before bread became dear ; but now both stand at a pretty high rate, and of consequence must proportionably raise the price of labour ; all which, at a time, when war gives a damp to commerce, when our manufactures are in a sort of declining condition, when the *French* are endeavouring to undersell us in all foreign markets, when our plantations are more our support than foreign trade, when our current cash is lessening, are as dismal occurrences as any that could at this critical conjuncture happen to a nation.

Engrossing, regrating, amassing, or retaining any necessary commodity from market, is an offence of so black a nature, that no excuse can be admitted to palliate, much less to justify it. The partiality of persons, who in a remote sense may be gainers by it, or

their interest with the leading men of the government, cannot in the least diminish the infamy of the practice. What though a man in some respect has a right to turn to the best advantage his property, shall he therefore be permitted to make a prey of his fellow-subjects, or shall opulence and cunning have it in their power to enslave with impunity a whole nation ?

A high market, even in the midst of plenty, will probably continue, whilst farmers and engrossers can hold out unmolested. Nothing will deter them from sharing their benefits, unless either the crops of subsequent seasons prove too large, or the legislature, pushed on by the outcries of the people, find it absolutely necessary to interfere with greater restrictions than they have hitherto done. Landlords, no doubt, think the common interest of no consequence to them in regard to their rents being well paid ; the farmers are dependent on them, and the engrossers on the farmers. If these last suffer, the others must expect the same fate ; so that the rest of the community hemmed in, as it were, within the streights of an infamous combination, are not likely to extricate themselves so easily.

Pursuant

Pursuant to the strict rules of law, all grain should be brought to, and once only sold in public market; but time, the increase of cultivation, the situation of some places, and the great demand for our grain abroad, have made sample markets in some measure, and in some places, at least seemingly necessary, and so far as that appears to be really the case, may reasonably be admitted; but if from this necessity, or use, springs a scandalous abuse, it is certainly right, that either such practice be totally annulled, or so rectified by particular ascertainment, that no abuse may spring in one place, from the use, or necessity of sample markets in another.

Sample-jobbing in *London* has given the hint to the like kind of practice all over the kingdom, but more especially within fifty miles of the metropolis; where the infection being sooner caught, is more perniciously pursued, and the farmer and the mealman united in the same scheme. By this means the markets are universally forestalled, and the mealman makes what price he pleases to the baker, and to those who make their own bread. When a miller is rich enough to turn mealman, he refuses the use of his mill to both, and in either case the consumer must pay his price. This is the second course of combina-

combination, and follows close at the heels of the engrossers and jobbers, and adds to the general combination ; which dictates to the whole body of the people, and is so far incapable of redress, as the bad hearts of those who share in the profits, or of those who for private reasons countenance the procedure, can contrive to make it.

The malign influence of the *London* market, together with the illegal manner of proceeding that obtains in it, is the real source, from whence this stream of infamous practice flows. Wealth being centered here, the employment for it in fair trade, neither abundant, nor lucrative, issues very freely, when any thing presents that promises a gainful event, and the cunning, the busy and necessitous, are ever at work to circulate the idle cash. Thus is that wealth we are so proud of turned upon ourselves, and instead of profiting by foreign trade, is become the bane of the nation, and saps the very basis of future acquisition.

In the verge of *London*, or within the bills of mortality, at the lowest computation, are eight hundred thousand souls, the greater part of whom depend on daily labour, and consequently have an essential dependance on
the

the moderate price of necessaries : the exportation of grain also hence is greater than from all the other ports together ; so that the inference may be just, that the *London* markets must either immediately, or eventually direct all the other markets.

As *London* then is the common medium by which all other markets are directed, and as here lies the source of the evil, here the regulation should commence, as in all human appearance every other attempt will prove abortive, while this is the principal, and totally in the power of factors, jobbers, sharpers and thieves, dispersed over the kingdom, to center all the corn trade in one common bubble. Such markets seem therefore requisite to be constituted here, where the laws can be duly put in execution against engrossing, forestalling and regrating ; where regulations may take place, different in a great degree from those, *London* markets have heretofore made for themselves ; and where no monopolists can combine against the public, by sale of the same commodity several times the same day, raising by dispersed agents the price every where, so far as it suits their interest here, and sets a pernicious example for all other markets to imitate.

If

If the evil was confined to *London*, it would only concern about a million of people ; but its baleful influence diffuses itself all over the kingdom, and like a malignant pest, scatters destruction as it spreads. This practice in the metropolis constitutes a kind of immutable price in all the statute markets, and has occasioned the starting up of sample markets in many villages and obscure places, which forestall the other, and utterly confound the ancient order and regularity of dealing.

Where no just reason against it occurs, we with great rectitude of judgment comply with ancient laws and regulations, and here the standard rules are evidently in favour of the old constitution ; but were it otherwise, the laws ought to be our guide, and strictly attended to until something better presents to the consideration of the legislature ; and as all constitutions, like material structures, vary their countenance by interventionary accidents and occurrences, they seem alike to require due and timely reparation ; if bad in the foundation, to be new built ; if declining on a good basis, to be recovered back into their first perfect state. Hence we reasonably conclude, that an elusion of the laws is criminal, and any practice tending thereto meritoriously punishable ;
with

with this remarkable difference in respect to necessaries, as such concern the main body of the people, who neither have, nor can have any relief, but what springs from the honour and justice of their constituents.

As this practice now operates, no consumer, whether a man of fortune, or in business, who keeps many servants, or cattle, or both, can possibly furnish himself at prime cost; though it is plainly the intention of the laws, that every one who chooses it, should have the chance of the market in their favour, and not be obliged to take goods at the sixth or seventh hand, the price advancing on each, and ultimately on the consumer, and rising again in the hands of the mealman, and on the baker; which consideration, if well attended to, should seemingly induce men of fortune to balance what they increase in their expence, by what they gain in the securing of their rents; more especially those, who have their estates out on long leases, and those who have not, may, at the same time they calculate profit and loss, reflect on the consequence of raising the price of provisions on millions of industrious poor, who must one way or other be fed at their expence.

Common

Common sense and self-interest should here unite in favour of the public; and however it may seem a paradox, it is demonstrably true, that the rise of rents on lands previously well cultivated, is the destruction of trade, supposing it to be owing to the rise of necessaries; and while the owner receives more money, his revenue, in the like kind of living, will be found less than before; that is, he will have less to spare out of such revenue; and lands, as they rise in their rents, will fall in their saleable value, by the means of the increasing load on them.

The purchase of lands by their annual valuation, must depend on the wealth, or poverty of the body of people in trade; as necessaries grow dear, the price of labour increases, consequently either our manufactures rise, or those who conduct them are poor; if they rise in price, they will lessen in sale, and gradually dwindle into neglect; and as to the purchase of lands, the consequence is exactly the same, whether men work for little or nothing, or whether they have little or nothing to do; and at last where can the fatality fall but on the landed interest, and as that decreases in value, the burden of supporting the poor rises in proportion; and this,
with

with an established dearness of necessaries, is the most probable means of bringing great fortunes into a narrow compass, and reducing those of moderate estates to beggary.

Jobbers, to blind the legislature, and give the enquiry a wrong turn, have thrown all the blame on the distillers, have interested themselves deeply in the outcry, and by giving power a false scent, have puzzled the chase. It is only true, that distillers are blameable in two lights, in making spirits too cheap, and in manufacturing good corn when there is a real scarcity. In the first case, the cheapness of spirits is in some measure balanced by the destruction of smuggling; and in the latter they beg the question, because corn is not scarce. If the making of spirits takes off the bad corn in times of plenty, it certainly is a benefit to the farmer; so then the only complaint against the distillery seems to be their using unmalted corn, wheat when it is dear, and the abuse of spirits by excess.

We must then recur to more certain causes, and if the distillery contributes something, though we do not find that impeding the manufacture has in the least lessened the price of corn, it is not the main something

we are enquiring after : it has been only a blind to interrupt the course of a just enquiry, to impose on our representatives, by leading them into a useless consideration of unimportant matter, to fence off a real and important disquisition. The stress must therefore still lie on the jobbers, engrossers, regraters and retainers : the government money set them up, and has constituted such a fund in their favour, that opening the ports and a rich harvest, will with difficulty break through in one season, unless the same power that unwarily created the evil, shall think proper by an express bill, to direct that every farmer in the kingdom shall bring so much of their grain to market, as is more than sufficient to serve their respective families, until the inning of the next ensuing harvest.

As to the quantities assigned consumers, who would purchase at the first hand for their proper use, it is easily regulated by an entry in the clerk of the market's book of their usual consumption, and a penalty given on retailing ; and in the like method on the corn-chandlers for jobbing.

The engrossers who store up corn should be under the direction of the magistrates, and

obliged by them to bring their corn to market, when above a certain price: in this article the factors should be under the same direction; and this mode pursued in every market throughout the kingdom.

An ingenious man would readily draw up such rules for the perfecting of this design, as might make it very easy and practicable, and at any time ascertain the quantity of grain in hand of every specie throughout the kingdom, and with not much difficulty set the highest price each market-day, by an equal fair calculated proportion, I mean the highest price of the best kind of every specie, and as to the rest leave the market to take its course, so none required a price above the limits prescribed.

Five shillings for the *Winchester* bushel may be supposed to be a fair price; and if so agreed, may be the standard medium, and the rising of the price proportioned to the lowering of the quantity. When wheat is at the standard medium, no ports ought to be opened for importation; but as the quantity rises, and the price lessens, exportation may be admitted to bring it up to the medium standard; and when the quantity is below that, importation allowed.

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This

This is the equal law between the labourer and the farmer; and the same rule that governs wheat, which is the leading grain, may be equally pursued in every other specie.

When a regulation of this kind is adjusted with judgment and certainty, the price will not be arbitrarily in the determination of the person or persons assigned, but reduced to a mathematical truth, that every one concerned may appeal to for conviction. It is to be hoped that the subject is of such consequence, as to merit a very serious consideration; being in effect the like kind of scheme, as to the essence, which gave birth to the adjusting the price of bread, and only an attempt to perfect, what the wisdom of our ancestors conceived to be just, and what their successors have found reason to approve for many centuries; and as the adjustment of the price of bread is almost the only regulated œconomy in the whole system of our laws, if I may be permitted to call that a system which is generally precarious and uncertain, it will undoubtedly be very much to the honour of the legislature to make one perfect law, in a matter whereon our trade and manufactures, and their own very being as a constitution, essentially depends.

These

These hints have been carefully collected, methodized and digested for your Grace's serious perusal from a valuable piece some time ago made public, and entitled a *Compendium of the Corn-Trade*. But it is not sufficient to guard against the iniquitous practices of ingrossers, jobbers, regraters and retainers, unless at the same time some remedy is applied to rectify the abuses in a collateral branch of the same trade, namely the baking-business, which is accused by a book called *Poison detected* of introducing many adulterations into bread, our common food, whereby are occasioned the decrease and degeneracy of the people, the untimely deaths of infants, and a train of innumerable diseases.

Of all the abuses alledged against bakers, I know of none, after a very diligent enquiry into the matter, that will hold good against them, except the infusion of alum in the water they make use of for preparing their flour or meal into dough. This, they say, is principally calculated for clearing the water, in order to make the bread look white, which if people are pleased to accept of in the natural colour of the meal or flour, there will be no further occasion for the use of any such ingredient.

It may be greatly questioned, whether any such quality is inherent to alum, as to impart whiteness in a greater degree than the quality of the flour will in itself admit of: so that it may with better reason be supposed, that the chief intent in its use is, by its astringency, to bring the dough to a viscid and strong consistence, and to assimilate all the particles of different grain which may have entered the composition. By this means corrupt flour and unfit for use, with the admixture of good, is compelled into a proper cohesion, the aluminous particles equally pervading the whole mass, and dilating and compressing, making light and heavy, much according to the proportion observable in the atmosphere. For if a thong of alum-leather be extended like a cord, and fastened to something at each extremity, it will give surprisingly in moist weather, and in dry shrivel up and contract like a fiddle-string. A barometer cannot more surely indicate the different changes of weather, nor even determine more exactly the degrees. However, it must not be imagined that a baker is so ingenious as to make aluminated loaves for amusing himself and his customers with meteorological observations: all he intends by impregnating his water with this acetaceous salt, is to render his dough compact, that it
should

should not run in the oven, and to assimilate all parts, by forcing them to cohere, as just now mentioned.

Nature does nothing in vain; and Beings ought not to be multiplied without necessity; are two logical axioms, which should be attended to on this occasion. Nature in allotting us such and such things for good and wholesome food, never designed that they should be adulterated by any foreign mixtures; and when there is no necessity for them, things being infinitely better in their genuine state, it argues a vast depravity of taste, and here, in respect to bakers, fraudulent dealing, and a cheat upon the public, in endeavouring to make their commodity appear better than it really is: for in case of unsoundness in the flour, as the author of *Poison detected* says, bakers give such a kneadable toughness to dough, by the infusion of alum in the water, that they defy the art of man to discover the bread to have been made of unsound flour. Thus the buyer is imposed upon, and instead of wholesome and good bread, feeds upon a very pernicious kind to his health: for though a noxious substance may conceal the evil qualities of another by its admixture, it cannot be imagined that both acquire a wholesome nature by their union,

and depositing the malignant qualities they separately had, acquire virtues which neither of them was supposed to possess. But if this mixture is chiefly employed for restoring unsound flour, why is it now indiscriminately used? The damaged and the perfect are both mixed with the ingredient, and the danger in a manner becomes equally the same in using of either for food. Several methods may doubtless be assigned to restore the unsound, or at least to prevent its ill effects, when necessity makes it requisite to be used for human food; but none, I dare say, can aver, with any shew of reason, that alum for any salubrious qualities should be adopted for this purpose.

As the bakers begin to cry *peccavimus* upon account of poisoning instead of purifying the water with alum, and as it is an error they seem inclined to retract, they may be used with some indulgence, if their future good conduct makes amends for what has been hitherto amiss: but the mischief does not intirely lie here; they may still continue in an iniquitous combination with the mealmen for manufacturing unsound, damaged or adulterated flour: to have an opportunity of buying cheap and selling dear will probably be a powerful temptation, and few will be

be so conscientious as not to yeild to it : in short, filthy private lucre may entertain them with an idea of such engaging charms, as easily to prevail upon them to set aside all notions of public utility.

Here it is, my Lord, that the matter strikes home ; here the wound is dangerous, and requires a skilful hand to probe it to the bottom and bring on a cure. It will avail but little, if other male-practices are only put a stop to, and no provision made to secure the public from being imposed upon by the base arts of as base men. The price of corn is regulated ; scarcity is guarded against ; the people's wishes are crowned with the certain hopes of the revival of plenty : what then ? This joyous prospect is instantaneously blasted by the bitter reflection of poison instead of natural aliment in their bread being administered to them. The baker, no doubt, will plead ignorance, and say he was deceived by the mealman : but can he be so stupid in his business, as not to distinguish between a sound and unsound commodity, between flour the produce of good wheat, and flour villainously mingled by avarice, with chalk, lime, calcined bones or any thing else that can be wrought into the appearance of flour ?

If he is intelligent in his craft, as he will allow himself to be, what reasonable excuse can he pretend for manufacturing a bad commodity? At any rate he will be judged a sharer in the spoil: for none will believe that he will turn out so honest as to cry stinking fish and acquaint his customers: " here's a loaf made out of damaged flour: " I was forced to bind it with alum to " keep it from falling in pieces. Here's another one half chalk; another three parts " lime; another almost intirely of dead " men's bones, calcined and ground down " into a sort of impalpable powder. If " your stomachs are squeamish and cannot " relish such, you may even have a loaf " of sound wheat, but you must pay a " round price for it."

But it may be supposed that the bakers can exculpate themselves, that they are innocent in all respects, except in the case of alum, and that perchance if they manufacture a bad commodity, they are in a great measure ignorant that they do, the cheat is so fair and wrapt up in such artful disguise. Where then must the blame lie? If not in the bakers, surely it must in the mealmen. Nothing, I fear, can be alledged in their justification. They have been the beasts of prey,

prey, that so long ravaged the nation, and now we have got the scent of them, let us boldly pursue the chace and hunt them down.

Besides the adulterations of chalk, lime, and calcined bones introduced among wheat-flour, I am assured by good authority, that the millers, employed by mealmen, grind down by their orders, considerable quantities of a calcined stone, called alabaster, to which, for fear of being known, they give the name of *Spanish white*. Sixteen pounds of this stone cost them about seven pence half-penny, whence may be concluded how considerable the profits must be.

These millers also, which is very detrimental to the baking business, and an imposition on the public, use most commonly for grinding a sort of stone imported from *France*, which they call *cullen-stone*, and which by grinding two bushels and upwards more in an hour than ours, and withal, by reducing as it were to atoms the skin, or pellicle of the grain, and consequently leaving little, or no bran, will gain one bushel out of five to the mealman: but the flour is always husky and gritty, and therefore prejudicial to the baker and pernicious to the consumer.

If

If such cheats are practised by mealmen, as there is good reason to believe they are, and as it may be supposed, that they surpass the skill of the bakers to discover them, what must the dismal consequences be of eating our bread mingled with chalk, lime, calcined bones and alabaster stone, together with a multiplicity perhaps of other ingredients, which as yet have not come to our knowledge, but which may be easy to the invention of iniquity bent on the quest of lucre.

The author of *Poison detected* says: “lime
 “ and chalk engender an acrimony which
 “ erodes the bowels and intestines, if they are
 “ not defended, or their spiculæ sheathed by
 “ the lubricating pituite provided for such
 “ purposes; but the use of that provision is
 “ defeated by this diabolical compound; for
 “ the absorbent quality of chalk, and the
 “ fiery effects of lime, entirely destroy that
 “ lixivium.”

“ So that if the chalk obstructs the cavi-
 “ ties of the vessels, lime dries up the juices
 “ prepared to dissolve such obstructions, and
 “ lastly, alum completes the destruction,
 “ by contracting the capacity of the vessels,
 “ and imprisoning thereby the matter de-
 “ tained

“ tained in them. So that obstructions,
 “ the causes of most diseases, are naturally
 “ formed by bread thus abused.”

“ I have seen a quantity of lime and
 “ chalk, continues the same author, in the
 “ proportion of one to six, extracted from
 “ this kind of bread: possibly the baker
 “ was not so expert at his craft as to con-
 “ ceal it.” (He should have said; possibly
 the baker was not so expert at his craft
 as to detect the tricks of the mealman;
 if he was expert enough, he would have
 returned such adulterated flour.) “ The lar-
 “ ger granules were visible enough: perhaps
 “ a more minute analysis would have pro-
 “ duced a much greater portion of these
 “ pernicious materials.”

In this manner, my Lord, considerable
 portions of lime, alum, chalk, ground
 bones, alabaster-stone, whiting, plaister of
Paris, &c. &c. &c. jumbled together with
 a small quantity of flour, a little salt, yeast
 and water, and so worked up into a paste,
 compose, when baked, what goes under the
 denomination of bread. What means must
 the legislature have recourse to for remedy-
 ing the evil? How shall they keep these men
 honest? Would physicians appointed to in-
 spect

spect the mealmen's stores be of any service? No: they might be equally liable to deception with the bakers. Would a chymical analysis made of the flour before sent in to, or used by the baker seem requisite? I fancy that the operation would be attended with great difficulties, or at least would be too tedious. But some precaution should take place to prevent the abuse, and none in my humble opinion would be more advisable than for the government to propose a considerable reward to such person or persons, as might make a discovery of these male-practices, and inform against the delinquent, who, on conviction, shall be punished either by death, transportation, imprisonment, or pecuniary mulcts, as the law in such case may direct and make provision for.

It may happen, as it does but too often, that bread-corn is damaged, and though unfit for use in that state, may be properly rectified without the sinister methods of lucrative arts. The author of *Poison detected* makes a rational proposal on this head: " If, says he, at any time the bread-corn
 " proves to be unsound, or damaged, and
 " if it must be necessarily used for human
 " food, rather than mix it with any noxious
 " mate-

“ materials, let the baker who has some
 “ share of conscience, add an admixture of
 “ fine barley meal to the unsound flour, in
 “ proportion as it is more or less damaged;
 “ if a little finely ground rice be added, it
 “ will not be the worse for it. This me-
 “ thod of restoring the flour, not only
 “ makes the bread fine, beautiful and de-
 “ licious, but wholesome and nutritious; it
 “ restores its cohesion of parts, supplies it
 “ with a fresh glutinity, and revives its
 “ extinguished *ignea vis intus*, or ferment-
 “ ing quality; so that it kneads without
 “ alum, and rises well in the oven. This
 “ remedy is of inconsiderable charge, or
 “ rather none at all: it is also procured with
 “ as much ease as the other bread-corn, and
 “ requires no particular art to apply it suc-
 “ cessfully.”

I shall subjoin to this observation a few
 others, which will, I flatter myself, be not
 reputed amiss by connoisseurs. And first, for
 the sake of the farmer, that he may have a
 fine and exceedingly plentiful crop of wheat,
 let him bray nitre and its *spuma*, or scum,
 and mingle it with fine mould, and after he
 has sown his corn, let him sprinkle the same
 therewith on the furrows. This will also
 keep the corn safe and unhurt from insects,
 &c.

&c. Towards the preserving of flour, let equal quantities of cummin and salt be brayed together, and when the mass is dry, let it be laid over the flour. The flour of the wheat that is ground in the beginning of the month of *August* keeps for a considerable time; at least it is frequently so experienced in *Italy*: but the general way of preserving is drying, or keeping in a very dry place; and hence it is that biscuit is sometimes preserved for a year together: for every thing subject to putrefaction, is so chiefly by reason of some moisture; so that subtracting the aqueous moisture, putrefaction will long be resisted. But as it is difficult to exhaust the aqueous moisture, without likewise lessening in a great measure the fat moisture, it may therefore be accounted for, why biscuit nourishes less than common bread. Aboard of ship, by the moisture imbibed constantly from the salt-water, biscuit becomes rancid and musty, and sometimes crumbles into real rottenness: wherefore, there is a necessity of having it made of the best meal or flour, and baked thrice over for long voyages, otherwise it will soon corrupt. It is asserted by some travellers, that bread is made, which lasts sound and good for three years, in the island *Sava*, about two hundred miles distant from the *Moluccas*. It does not appear how this is possible,

fible, nor what proper reason can be assigned, unless we suppose, that the produce of the grain, when converted into paste, is dense, viscid, fat and oily, that it is baked by a slow fire, and that some things in their nature preservatives against putrefaction are mixed with it. However, the art of baking is not likely to arrive here at that perfection, because our air is either thinner, or moister than that *Indian* air, or for some other cause is more subject to bring on putrefaction.

Long voyages and wars often reduce men to the want of all necessaries for food, and so as to labour under a great and vehement famine. It will not therefore be foreign to our purpose to prescribe some remedy in this case. When a famine prevails, and bread is very scarce, the liver of all animals appeases hunger in a very surprizing manner. Cakes made of sweet almonds and sugar are exceeding nutritive. Biscuit, upon account of its siccity and remaining much longer uncorrupt than common bread, is also very useful. AVICENNA relates, that a person setting out upon a journey drank one pound of oil of violets mixed with melted beef-suet, and afterwards continued fasting for ten days together without the least hunger. He says,
I
that

that oil of almonds and beef-suet will effect the same by their viscosity. Hence it was that this celebrated physician, who knew things more by unquestionable experiments than by idle speculations and conjectures, obliged the world with the following prescription, which in time of famine by sea or land may be extremely serviceable.

Rec. Of sweet almonds unshelled, one pound.

Of melted beef-suet, one pound.

Of oil of violets, two ounces.

Mucilage, q. s.

Of the roots of marsh-mallows, one ounce.

Let all together be brayed in a mortar, and made into boluses about the bigness of a common nut. They must be kept so, as to prevent their melting by the heat of the sun.

I much fear I have greatly trespassed on your Grace's patience, by thus deviating from the main point of the subject, which was to investigate the properest methods for guarding against the abuses of mealmen, and all combined with them to the destruction, I may say, of the public. Besides what has already been humbly submitted to your

Grace's

Grace's consideration, the proposal I am now going to make, will, it is hoped, attract your favourable attention and patronage.

The society for encouraging the more useful arts and manufactures have offered premiums for the invention of such mills as shall be constructed in the most commodious manner for the use of families who may be inclined to grind their own corn for bread, and other purposes, and by this means avoid the many mischiefs occasioned by unwholesome bread and adulterated flour, or at least rid themselves of the apprehension of being so imposed upon. As such an invention is highly laudable, and must be attended with singular advantages, it immediately merited a kind of general approbation, and some well turned for this kind of mechanism, and willing to oblige the public, in compliance with the society's kind invitation and encouragement, sent their ingenious performances to the corner of *Castle-Court* in the *Strand*, to be there inspected and examined by the society. It was found upon trial, that all the mills brought to this place, except Mr. HARRIS's, operated by the mere dint of hard labour, by which the grinder was so fatigued, as to require immediate support, else he would have fainted away ; whereas Mr. HARRIS's

E mill

mill could go through the course of its operations, by a lesser weight raising a greater, or might be worked by the hand of a child of only six years old, or by weight like a jack, or by water. Unfortunately, by some accident happening during the time it was under trial, it broke ; and being demanded for a further trial, when rectified, to Mr. HARRIS's great surprize,, when all parts of it were secure, and when he was ready to set forth an unexceptionable specimen of its operating in the best manner, notice was given him to take his mill away. This disaster of the mill's breaking, together with other particulars of the principles of mechanics it was constructed upon, are better explained by the inventor himself in his expostulatory letter to the honourable society, on account of their ordering his mill to be taken away.

COPY of the LETTER

Sent by Mr. HARRIS

TO THE

HONOURABLE SOCIETY.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"THE motive that induced me to lay
"before your observation my hand-
"mill, though observed lofty in structure
"to magnify expence, was not with a view

“ of the premium, but to shew the office of
 “ its working, which is built upon that prin-
 “ ciple in the end to abstract labour, and to
 “ answer every particular, by coming into
 “ that reasonable method of exhibiting to
 “ the public those conveniencies at a mode-
 “ rate rate, according to your proposed in-
 “ tention. Not to trouble you with a long
 “ detail, come to particulars. Upon the ope-
 “ ration of every one, mine by many millers
 “ was proclaimed the best meal. I must
 “ observe, in regard to dimensions, that my
 “ materials were much less, in respect to the
 “ grinding stones, than any exhibited. So
 “ therefore, if I had been upon an equal
 “ footing, do not in the least doubt should
 “ have obtained superior advantage by its
 “ powerful operation ; but, on the contrary,
 “ was forced to shorten the lever, and load
 “ the upper stone with half a hundred
 “ weight.

“ I make no doubt of your impartiality
 “ to encourage ingenuity, and fully consider
 “ every demonstration to accomplish that
 “ end.

“ I was ordered to make further speed re-
 “ lative to the accident happening for a fur-
 “ ther trial, but yesterday, to my great
 “ fur-

"surprize, was noticed to take my mill
"away. I am,

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"With due respect and regard,

"Your most obedient, and

"Most humble servant,

Wednesday, Decemb. 21,
1757.

"THOMAS HARRIS."

Hence your Grace may see, that if no other cause of dislike could be alledged but the accident of breaking, which could be easily set to rights, and which might happen to the best piece of machinery in the world, there was no just reason for setting aside this mill, which by evident demonstration is better calculated for, and answers the intended purposes in a more satisfactory degree, than any brought to the test with it.

Mr. HARRIS intends further benefits to the public, which under the sanction of your Grace's potent patronage, will, he is confident, not prove unacceptable.

My

My Lord, I repeat it again, that the eyes of the nation are fixed on your Grace for redressing all grievances, for rectifying all abuses, and for reinstating a once happy people in the possession of their former dignity and splendour. At present, this dignity, this splendour, this sense of honour and integrity are somewhat tarnished and obliterated by the depraved hearts of a few ill designing men; but your Grace's prudent counsel, attended with prompt execution, will soon dispel these clouds of selfishness, and spread about us the pure lustre of such sentiments and actions, as may be best conducive to procure a real national felicity. You are the only MÆCENAS of our times, the patron of the politer sciences, and the encourager of all useful arts. It is therefore that Mr. HARRIS solicits your Grace's patronage; and your goodness, and your willingness to be of service, where the public welfare is interested, fill him with hopes that his solicitation will not be ineffectual. This motive of the public welfare that has invariably influenced your Grace, is also the prevailing argument that induces the greater part of the nation to make application to you for the carrying into execution of any grand, noble, or useful enterprize. And to whom can they better apply than to him,

I

who

who by the fruitfulness of his genius can improve any scheme laid before him, can digest it by his prudence, can facilitate the means for its progress by the force of his judgment, can divert intervening obstacles by his address, can foresee difficulties by his forecast, and can give all necessary orders for conducting things to a happy issue. These eulogiums are truly your Grace's due, and all, to pay you this tribute of praise, unite cordially with

YOUR GRACE'S

Most humble servant, &c.

F I N I S.

1854

who by the kindness of his genius can
improve any scheme laid before him, can
direct it by his prudence, can facilitate the
means for its progress by the force of his
influence, can direct intervening obstacles
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FINIS